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the author can state, from his own experience, that there is no occupation that will be recollected with more pure delight."

" Such thoughts are the sublimest, the most pleasing, and the most useful of all others, and their indulgence is one of the most important duties appropriated to this season of the day.

" In the last place, the day ought to be concluded, as it was begun, by an *act of piety*, that is to say, by devout perusal of the Word of God, and by humble prayer for his protection and blessing. Such exercises are not only the highest duties but the noblest privileges of man; and no day can be considered as suitably spent that has not been consecrated by such exercises."

We trust it is scarcely necessary for us to state, that we would not be understood to mean in any thing we have said or quoted to intimate an opinion, that we are at all sufficient of ourselves to do any for ourselves. We have not so learned Christ. We know that it is God that worketh in us both to will and to do, but we also know that mistakes and evils arise from a class of men who cry out continually, believe, believe, believe, and all is well. As if to believe in the sense of a saving faith were a plain and obvious thing! It is NOT an easy thing to be a christian. No man can believe, in the only sense in which belief is of any use, except it be given him of the Spirit; and that spirit, like every other operation of divine grace, cometh not with observation, but slowly and imperceptibly, by the steadfast use of the appointed means, and when the same spirit does come, he doth not supersede the necessity of constant unremitting exertion on our parts. On the contrary, the flesh lusteth against the spirit still, passion and conscience war ever, for these two are contrary one to the other, but they that are born of the spirit, being filled with humility, and that catholic charity which is the very bond of perfectness, go on in faith from strength to strength, nothing doubting, rejoicing in hope, quickened in diligence, frequent and fervent in prayer, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. In a word, they know that they are the temple of God, which temple, that is, his own body, if any man defile, him will God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, and man is that temple.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Sketches, Historical and Descriptive, of the principal Cities of Europe; intended as a Companion to Keith's and other popular Geographies. By Jemima Bartlette. 18mo.—Souter, London.

[UNPUBLISHED.]

This little work is intended to supply a want felt by the author and by others engaged in the rudiments of education, that of a concise description of the chief cities in Europe, calculated to excite, and in some degree to satisfy, the curiosity of the young mind.

Elementary geography, as usually taught, is too often deficient in the points just mentioned; presenting little but dry and concise particulars. A work like this now before us, therefore, of moderate size, and adapted in its style to the comprehension of those for whose use it is intended, is an acceptable addition to this valuable department of literature.

The cities selected, amount to thirty-seven, being all those which now are, or which formerly were the capitals of distinct nations during the later periods of the history of Europe. Athens, which is the last in the series, is the only one introduced to which this limitation does not apply.

The accounts seem to be well selected from the latest authorities, and contain many facts likely to be at once interesting and instructive. On the whole, we consider the volume to be well suited for the purpose for which it has been compiled.

The Family Cabinet Atlas, Part I.—E. Bull, London; Bell and Bradfute, Edinburgh; and J. Cumming, Dublin.

The 'Family Cabinet Atlas,' which is to be published monthly, is intended as a companion, suitable in size, shape, and execution, to such geographical and historical works as may appear in the 'Family Library,' the 'Cabinet Cyclopaedia,' the 'Family Classical Library,' and other popular works of that class. The first number contains maps of the British Isles, Switzerland and Poland, very neatly engraved on steel, and sold both coloured and plain. As the scale is necessarily too small to admit of inserting more than the principal towns, each map is accompanied by a copious table of the names of places of inferior note, with their latitudes and longitudes registered alphabetically on the opposite page. There is also a comparative view of the principal mountains in the world, with their altitudes marked, and a comparative view of the chief rivers in the world with their respective lengths. It will be an extremely pretty book, and very convenient for quick and easy reference. We observed some trifling inaccuracies in the map of the comparative heights of mountains, but generally speaking the work is very correctly as well as beautifully executed.

Rational Arithmetic, &c. in which its principles are familiarly explained and illustrated by practical examples.—Tims, Webb, Madden, W. Curry and Co. Dublin; and Hurst Chance and Co. London.

The best scientific work on Arithmetic we are acquainted with in English, is the 'Philosophy of Arithmetic,' by Walker, late a Fellow in our University; the best complete practical treatise we know of on the subject, is 'Thomson's Arithmetic,' the production, we believe, of the present professor of mathematics in the Belfast Institution. There is a strange and absurd prejudice existing in the minds of many people against the cultivation of an accurate and profound knowledge of arithmetic, as if it were something 'base and mechanical.' This is simply because they know nothing about it, a circumstance which can occasion no surprise if they have limited their studies to the books in ordinary use, in which ratios are instituted between sugar and shillings, and other like enormities of so palpable and disgraceful a nature, that one only wonders at the audacity of those who have dared to put such ignorant nonsense in print. The little book now under review, is an initiatory treatise free from these absurdities; and we willingly recommend it as the best introduction to the subject that we have met with, for mere beginners.

PERIODICAL LITERATURE.

The Edinburgh Review, No. CI.—Longman and Co. London; and A. Black, Edinburgh.

The commencing article of the present number is a defence of the claim of the late Mr. Clerk, of Eldin, to the merit of having first suggested the celebrated manoeuvre of breaking the enemy's line at sea. We confess we think that this paper settles the question, and that Clerk is the man. The second article is a review of Sir James Turner's life and times, a book published last year, by the aid of the Bannatyne club, and relating to the Scottish Covenanters and the principal events of the civil war in Scotland, in the seventeenth century.

The third paper is an account of the system of education pursued at Eton, which certainly does not set that celebrated seminary in the most favourable point of view. The Eton system is described as failing in every essential point of communicating much or valuable knowledge, or of training and invigorating the intellectual faculties: the article, however, is written by some one who evidently feels very sore about the recent institution of a government commission of inquiry and reform, to examine into the present state of the universities of Scotland, the purity and efficiency of which he is anxious to exalt by contrast with the state of Eton college.

The fourth article is on the recent history of Astronomical science. To this important and apparently able paper, we were able to give only a very slight and hasty perusal, sufficient, however, to enable us to detect one very glaring blunder, of which the editor, seeing that he is also editor of the Encyclopaedia Britannica, and ought not to be ignorant of the subject under consideration, has reason to be heartily ashamed. Speaking of the annual parallax of fixed stars, the writer says, "Dr. Brinkley has, indeed, *imagined* that the DUBLIN circle indicated the existence of parallax, and he instances some stars with regard to which its influence was too great to be mistaken; but his results have not been confirmed by the excellent circles of the Greenwich observatory, so that the annual parallax of any star hitherto observed, cannot be said to be appreciable even with the largest and most delicate instruments." This conclusion is exactly the opposite of the truth. It is plain that the writer of the paper *imagines* that the Greenwich circle is as great or greater than the Dublin circle; now, he ought to know, because every body, but himself, that has ever even 'heard by report' of astronomical instruments, knows, that the Dublin circle is famous over Europe for being the largest in the world. The diameter of the Dublin circle is eight feet, that of the Greenwich six feet, therefore the size of the Dublin is to the size of the Greenwich as sixty-four to thirty-six, or nearly double. We should thank Mr. Macvey Napier to correct this mis-statement in his next number, because it is important that the British public should not be deceived under the guise of scientific information, and that they should be made aware that the greatest astronomer at present in the world (Dr. Brinkley, now bishop of Cloyne,) using the largest instrument in the world, (the Dublin circle,) has come to the conclusion, that the annual parallax of a fixed star is appreciable. Panizzi too, unless our memory altogether fail us, detected